

subscription requesting means for enabling a user to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, the subscription requesting means comprising a programmable selection formula, wherein the programmable selection formula is programmed with subscription criteria, wherein the subscription criteria identify information to be searched for and presented to the user at various intervals without additional user intervention;

B1 subscription parameter receiving means for receiving at least one subscription parameter from the user wherein the at least one subscription parameter indicates a type of information to retrieve;

search performing means for performing a search of the at least one database for information matching the subscription;

subscription retrieving means for retrieving the information matching the subscription; and

subscription notification means for notifying the user of matched and retrieved information.

Sub 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the search performing means performs the search of the at least one database on a random basis.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the search performing means performs the search on a random basis selected by the user.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising option input means for enabling a user to input one or more options relating to the subscription.

5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Twice Amended) A system for enabling a system user to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, comprising:

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a subscription requesting object that enables a user to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, the subscription requesting object comprising a programmable selection formula, wherein the programmable selection formula is programmed with subscription criteria, wherein the subscription criteria identify information to be searched for and presented to the user at various intervals without additional user intervention;

a subscription parameter receiving object that receives at least one subscription parameter from the user, wherein the subscription parameter indicates a type of information to retrieve;

a search performing object that performs a search of the at least one database for information matching the subscription;

a subscription retrieving object that retrieves the information matching the subscription; and

subscription notification means for notifying the user of matched and retrieved information.

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7. The system of claim 6, wherein the search performing object

performs the search of the at least one database on a random basis.

B2 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the search performing object performs the search on a random basis selected by the user.

9. The system of claim 6, further comprising an option input object that enables a user to input one or more options relating to the subscription.

10. (Cancelled)

Sub C3 B3 11. (Twice Amended) A method for enabling a system user to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, comprising the steps of:

requesting a subscription for at least one non-web document from at least one database, wherein the request comprises a programmable selection formula, wherein the programmable selection formula is programmed with subscription criteria, wherein the subscription criteria identify information to be searched for and presented to the user at various intervals without additional user intervention;

receiving at least one subscription parameter from a user, wherein the at least one subscription parameter indicates a type of information to be retrieved;

performing a search of the at least one database for information matching the subscription;

retrieving the information matching the subscription; and

notifying the user of matched and retrieved information.

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12. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of presenting the information to the user.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of periodically searching the at least one database.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of periodically searching the at least one database is performed on a random basis.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of periodically searching the at least one database is performed on a periodic basis selected by the user.

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16. (**Twice Amended**) A processor readable medium having processor readable code embodied therein for enabling a system user to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, comprising:

subscription requesting processor readable code for causing a processor to request a subscription of at least one non-web document from at least one database, the subscription requesting processor readable code comprising a programmable selection formula, wherein the programmable selection formula is programmed with subscription criteria, wherein the subscription criteria identify information to be searched for and presented to the user at various intervals without additional user intervention;

subscription parameter receiving processor readable code for causing a processor to receive at least one subscription parameter from a user wherein the at least one subscription parameter indicates a type of information

to retrieve;

search performing processor readable code for causing a processor to perform a search of the at least one database for information matching the subscription;

information retrieving processor readable code for causing a processor to retrieve the information matching the subscription; and

subscription notifying processor readable code for causing a processor to notify the user of matched and retrieved information.

17. The medium of claim 16, wherein the search performing processor readable code performs the search of the at least one database on a random basis.

18. The medium of claim 17, wherein the search performing processor readable code performs the search on a random basis selected by the user.

19. The medium of claim 16, further comprising option input processor readable code for causing a processor to enable a user to input one or more options relating to the subscription.

20. (Cancelled)

21. The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one database is a Lotus Notes database.

22. The system of claim 1, further comprising subscription presenting means for presenting the subscription to the user.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein the subscription presenting means presents the subscription as an electronic mail message.

24. The system of claim 6, wherein the at least one database is a Lotus Notes database.

25. The system of claim 6, further comprising subscription presenting means for presenting the subscription to the user.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein in the subscription presenting means presents the subscription as an electronic mail message.

27. The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one database is a Lotus Notes database.

28. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of presenting the subscription to the user.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the presenting step presents the subscription as an electronic mail message.

30. The medium of claim 16, wherein the at least one database is a Lotus Notes database.

31. The medium of claim 16, further comprising subscription presenting processor readable code for causing a processor to present the subscription to the user.

32. The medium of claim 31, wherein the subscription presenting processor readable code presents the subscription as an electronic mail message.

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